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Kittitas County, Washington

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION

District One Max A. Golladay District Two Bruce Coe

District Three Perry D. Huston

October 21, 2003

Mr. John lani U.S. EPA, Region 10 Regional Administrator's Office, RA-140 1200 Sixth Avenue Seattle, WA 98101



Re: Superfund site designation – Columbia River/ Lake Roosevelt

Mr. Iani,

The Board of County Commissioners of Kittitas County unanimously opposes the designation of the Lake Roosevelt area as a superfund site.

We have worked with the various county commissioners in the EWCOG throughout the years and those commissioners have our confidence and support in their ability to handle the negotiations and initial studies with Teck Cominco.

To designate now runs the risk of turning the recovery program into an international fight instead of a locally driven agreement to clean up the contamination. After all, the standards to which the site must be restored and the time lines to achieve those standards are initially the most important phase, and are clearly articulated in law.

And there always exists the opportunity to enter the fray later if the clean up is not going as planned.

We urge your restraint in this matter and suggest that the EPA act as a partner in the discussion. At this point, EPA's role should be to monitor compliance efforts and lend the technical assistance necessary to bring all parties to an agreement.

Most Cordially,

KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Max A. Golladay, Chairman

District #1

Perry D. Huston, Vice-Chair

District #3

Bruce Coe, Commissioner District #2



CC:

Congressman Doc Hastings Senator Patty Murray Senator Maria Cantwell Representative Bill Hinkle Representative Janéa Holmquist Senator Joyce Mulliken Merrill Ott EWCOG via email: Peter Scott - Preston, Gates, Ellis Bill Vogler WSAC